May 10, 2022

The Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry Assembly member, 4<sup>th</sup> District Swing Space, Room 6350 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2576 Voter Registration & Civic Engagement (Aguiar-Curry) - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly member Aguiar-Curry:

County of San Benito is proud to support AB 2576, which will create the Civic Learning, Outreach, and Engagement Fund for the Secretary of State to administer to expand and develop programming in counties with high percentages of unregistered eligible voters.

Voter registration and participation are the primary ways for Californians to express their political beliefs and preferences; however, in each statewide election in California since 1972, fewer than 60 percent of eligible voters have exercised their fundamental right to vote. Currently, 12 counties have fewer than 80 percent of eligible voters registered to vote.

The creation of a Civic Learning, Outreach, and Engagement Fund asks Registrars of Voters in specific counties to work with education officials to identify high school campuses to participate in voter engagement programs, including activities that result in awarding a State Seal. The fund will also ensure outreach with a focus on registering historically underrepresented communities as well as formerly incarcerated people.

AB 2576 is an important step towards ensuring that all eligible voters are registered to vote and informed about ways to participate in our democracy. For these reasons, the County of San Benito is proud to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Chair of the Board of Supervisors San Benito County

Cc: Honorable State Senator Anna Caballero
Honorable Assembly member Robert Rivas